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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/051,330	01/17/2002	Tilo Steinborn	103797-232-NP	7989

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, ANTHONY H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2854

DATE MAILED: 01/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/051,330

Applicant(s)

STEINBORN, TILO

Examiner

Anthony H Nguyen

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AN

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 November 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) a patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over MacPhee et al. (US 4,757,763) in view of Schmitt et al. (US 6,432,211).

With respect to claims 6 and 7, MacPhee et al. teaches a method for cleaning a soiled surface of a cylinder in a printing press including the steps of providing a cleaning cloth (c) from a supply roll 6, the cleaning cloth is treated with solvent via an application device 48 (MacPhee et al., Figs.1-3), placing the cleaning cloth by a pressing means 38 against the soiled surface of a rotating cylinder 2 for cleaning the soiled and rolling up the soiled cleaning cloth by a take-up roll 4. , MacPhee et al. does not teach the step of applying a cleaning medium for solving the soiling surface of the cylinder. However, Schmitt et al. teaches a method for cleaning a printing cylinder including the step of applying a cleaning medium 13 on the soiled surface of a printing cylinder 9 as shown in Fig.2 of Schmitt et al. Therefore, in view of the teaching of Schmitt et al., it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the cleaning method of MacPhee et al. by providing step of applying the cleaning medium on the soiled surface of the printing cylinder for optimum cleaning effects. With respect to claim 8-10, the use of a dampening solution as a cleaning medium for cleaning a printing cylinder is well known in the art.

Response to Arguments

Applicants' arguments filed on November 12, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive of any error in the above rejections. Applicant argues that MacPhee et al. and Schmitt et al. fail to teach or suggest the method for cleaning a surface of a cylinder in a printing press as recited. Specifically, applicant argues that MacPhee et al. and Schmitt et al. fail to teach the step of providing a blanket pre-treated with solvent of high viscosity from a supply roll, and MacPhee et al. fails to teach the step of applying a cleaning medium to the soiled surface of a printing cylinder. Also, applicant argues that MacPhee et al. and Schmitt et al. do not provide any suggestion or motivation to combine the references.

However, as explained above, MacPhee et al. teaches clearly the steps of providing a blanket or a cleaning cloth from a supply roll, the cleaning cloth is pre-treated with solvent or a cleaning medium, placing the pre-treat blanket into operating contact with the surface to be cleaned and rolling up the soiled blanket or the cleaning cloth to form a roll. While MacPhee et al. does not teach the step of applying a cleaning medium to the soiled surface of a printing cylinder to be cleaned, Schmitt et al. teaches clearly the step of applying a cleaning medium on a soiled surface of a printing cylinder to be cleaned. Therefore, it would have been obvious to providing the step of applying cleaning medium on the surface to be cleaned as taught by Schmitt et al. for optimum cleaning effects.

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references. The examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d

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1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, MacPhee et al. teaches clearly the method for cleaning a soiled surface of a printing cylinder using a pre-treated blanket or cleaning cloth, and Schmitt et al. teaches the step of providing a cleaning medium to a soiled surface of a printing cylinder to be cleaned. Both MacPhee et al. and Schmitt et al. are in a printing art and teach the method for cleaning the surface of a printing cylinder. Therefore, the combination of MacPhee et al. and Schmitt et al. renders obvious the structure as recited in the claims. It is believed that the rejections are proper since there is no apparent unobviousness in the method recited in the claims relative to the method of the prior art as applied.

Conclusion

The patents to Kreckel et al., Matsuno et al. and Price et al. are cited to show other methods having obvious similarities to the claimed method.

Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

a shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

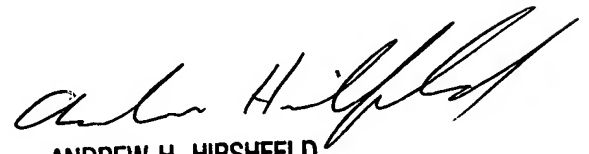
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-2869. The examiner can normally be reached daily from 9 AM to 5PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld, can be reached on (703) 305-6619. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



AHN
1/13/04



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